larger number may be vaccinated especially in Cranganur where the number is so very small.

Dr. E. S. R. Menon *(Director of Public Health and Panchayats).*—We make it a rule to vaccinate every body. This will be done this year also.

Visha Vaidyasala—Vellarapilly—opening of.

197. **Mr. George Parakkal** *(Narakkal).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they are aware that casualities due to snakebite is frequent in the villages of Vellarapilly;

(b) whether the Government will seriously consider the necessity of opening a Government Visha Vaidyasala at Vellarapilly?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon *(Director of Public Health and Panchayats).*—(a) There is no information.

(b) Government have sanctioned a scheme to provide the State with trained Visha Vaidyans and the trained vaidyans are being given free supply of medicines for treatment. This scheme will be tried for some time more before new Visha Vaidyasalas are started.

Local holiday—Nemmara-Vallanghy Vela Festival.

198. **Mr. R. Viswanathan Chettiar** *(Nemmara).*—Will the Government be pleased to declare the 20th of Meenam of every year a local holiday on account of the Nemmara-Vallanghy Vela festival to which great importance is attached by all sections of the public, as in the case of Pooram, Kongan Pada, and Bharani festivals in Trichur, Chittur and Cranganur, respectively?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—Government have no objection to consider the question if a representation is received from the public concerned.

Indian Evidence Act—application in Cochin.

199. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim** *(Cranganur).*—Will the Government state whether the Indian Evidence Act of 1872 is in force in Cochin?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—Yes.

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